

Office of the Attorney General Paul G. Summers

Department of Commerce and Insurance Commissioner Paula Flowers

NEWS RELEASE

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ATTORNEY GENERAL, DCA JOIN NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO PROMOTE CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK

Tennessee Attorney General Paul G. Summers, and Mary Clement, Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs have joined a group of federal, state, and local government agencies and national consumer advocacy organizations to launch the eighth annual National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW), February 5-11, 2006. NCPW empowers consumers by highlighting current consumer protection and education efforts in the fight against fraud in communities across the nation.

Nearly 25 million Americans – 11.2 percent of the adult population – experience consumer fraud each year, according to a Federal Trade Commission survey. NCPW partner organizations will direct consumers to boost their marketplace savvy at www.consumer.gov/ncpw where they can take the Grand Scam Challenge.

"We take consumer fraud seriously," Attorney General Summers said. "We hope highlighting national consumer protection week, and the information that is available to consumers, will help tennesseans recognize and avoid fraud and deception in the marketplace."

Mary Clement added that whether you're investing in a business opportunity, buying or selling on an Internet auction, or looking for a scholarship, a home loan, or a great deal on a

dream vacation, it pays to know how to spot a scam. Tips on a wide range of consumer protection issues are available at www.consumer.gov/ncpw.

National organizers of this year's NCPW are the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the Federal Citizen's Information Center (FCIC), the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), the U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators (NACAA), the National Consumers League (NCL), AARP, the Better Business Bureau (BBB), Call for Action, the Consumer Federation of America (CFA) and the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG).

For more information about NCPW, visit www.consumer.gov/ncpw. If you have a complaint about a company or any consumer matter, you can file a complaint by contacting the Tennessee Division of Consumer Affairs at www.state.tn.us/consumer or by calling (615) 741-4737 or 1-800-342-8385 (toll free).